



1. WHERE CAN PREKOTE® BE USED?

PreKote has been proven to improve adhesion and enhance corrosion protection on aluminum, magnesium, titanium, steel, composite and many plastics.

2. HOW DOES PREKOTE® SAVE ME TIME AND WHAT STEPS ARE REPLACED?

PreKote saves time by replacing four to five different chemicals and their application processes: solvent wipe, alkaline wash, acid brightener (de-oxidizer), desmutter and the chromate conversion coating (such as alodine).

3. ARE THERE MILITARY APPROVALS FOR PREKOTE®?

PreKote was not designed to conform to the commodity requirements of Mil-C-5541, which requires a conversion coating be formed by use of chromates. Since PreKote is designed precisely to eliminate hazardous chromates, it does not “meet the spec.” After passing numerous paint system specification tests by the US Air Force, Aerospace OEMs, and USAF flight-testing, the USAF specified PreKote as the only replacement for chromated conversion coatings in the T.O. 1-1-8, the umbrella Technical Order for aircraft painting.

4. ARE THERE ANY COMMERCIAL APPROVALS FOR PREKOTE®?

Yes, PreKote has obtained Boeing Engineering approval for use in the aircraft maintenance market. PreKote has also been approved by Dassault Aviation, Continental Airlines and Air Canada.

5. HOW SAFE IS PREKOTE®?

PreKote is extremely safe and is a non-hazardous, non-toxic, and quickly biodegradable technology with a pH of approximately 10–11.5. Chromated conversion coatings (such as alodine) are highly corrosive acids (pH of 1.3–3.0), contain a known carcinogen and do not biodegrade.

6. WHY DO I HAVE TO APPLY PREKOTE® TWICE?

The first application of PreKote replaces the alkaline wash and acid brightener steps, and removes the oxide layer present on metal substrates. The second step replaces the alodine, and cleans the metal oxides, oil, and grime lifted by the first application. In addition, the use of two steps greatly reduces the chances of missing any areas when scrubbing with PreKote.

7. IF MY PARTS ARE ALREADY DEOXIDIZED, OR I NEED TO DEOXIDIZE THEM IN A SEPARATE PROCESS, DO I STILL NEED TWO APPLICATIONS OF PREKOTE®?

No, the first scrubbing application of PreKote is meant to remove the metal oxide layer. If the part is deoxidized prior to PreKote, a single application of PreKote with a two-minute dwell, immediately followed by a rinse is adequate.

8. WHAT HAPPENS IF I ACCIDENTALLY LET PREKOTE® DRY?

Simply reapply enough PreKote to fully wet the surface, lightly scrub, and immediately rinse off.

9. WHAT HAPPENS IF I APPLY PAINT OVER A PREKOTE® SURFACE THAT I HAVE NOT RINSED?

Applying paint over a PreKote surface that has not been rinsed will cause paint adhesion failures. PreKote must be rinsed off while still wet. The objective is to provide a microscopic layer of PreKote molecules to the surface that enhance the bonding of the paint to the substrate. The PreKote molecules will automatically stick to the surface and remain there during the water rinse.

10. HOW LONG DO I HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL I CAN APPLY PRIMER?

Primer can be applied as soon as the surface is completely dry. If ovens or heated air blowers are available, PreKote can be forced dry at temperatures of up to 150°F.

11. WHAT'S THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF TIME BEFORE I MUST PAINT?

It is dependent on the environmental conditions. If the environment is dirty or the part is subject to the accumulation of dust and oil, 24 hours is the maximum suggested time before priming in order to achieve the best finish possible. If the process is longer or there is obvious dirt, dust, fuel, or oil, wipe the surface with a lint-free cloth lightly dampened with PreKote to remove the contamination. Proceed with primer when dry.

12. CAN PREKOTE® REMOVE SILICONE CONTAMINATION?

No, PreKote is not recommended for cleaning silicone contamination. Generally, the best means of removing silicone contamination is to sand out the contamination with fine aluminum oxide sand paper, then proceed with the normal PreKote application process.

13. CAN I USE PREKOTE® TO RE-ACTIVATE PRIMER?

Yes, PreKote is used extensively by the USAF to reactivate aged primer and topcoat. The application process is the same as for new or stripped surfaces. The advantage of using PreKote as a re-activator for primer is the treatability of bare metal areas, and improved inter-coat adhesion.

14. WILL I GET A WATER BREAK-FREE SURFACE?

Yes. In most cases you will get a water break-free surface, indicating that the part is clean and properly pretreated (Typically break is in 2-10 seconds with PreKote).

15. WHAT IF I DON'T GET A WATER BREAK-FREE SURFACE?

The surface may still be dirty or have an oxide layer. In this case, scrub the surface in question with PreKote. If repeated



scrubbings do not yield a water break-free surface there may be an issue with the rinse water. If the surface is clean the primer will stick even without a water break-free surface.

16. DO I NEED VENTILATION OR AIR EXHAUST WHILE USING PREKOTE®?

No, since PreKote does not contain toxic vapors or fumes, normal air circulation that meets the requirements of local health and safety authorities is sufficient.

17. WHAT SHOULD I WEAR WHILE APPLYING PREKOTE®?

Wear safety glasses and rain gear to keep PreKote off skin and out of eyes. Though PreKote is non-hazardous, continuous contact can dry out and irritate your skin. If PreKote contacts skin, calmly rinse with water to remove; there is no immediate danger. If PreKote gets into eyes, flush with water immediately.

18. WHAT TOOLS ARE NEEDED TO APPLY PREKOTE®?

Application tools required to apply PreKote are a sprayer, fine grit aluminum scrub pads (such as Scotch-Brite™) to scrub in PreKote®, and adequate pressure water to rinse. For larger surfaces flexible pad holders attached to poles can be used to greatly speed the process.

19. HOW DO I DISPOSE OF PREKOTE® AND THE RINSE WATER?

The EPA has determined that PreKote does not trigger Categorical Industrial User (CIU) status. Several municipalities with strict guidelines have approved PreKote for disposal in their municipal water waste systems. While PreKote is designed to be safe for all municipal waste water systems, please check with your water treatment authority before disposal.

20. WHY DO I NOT RINSE BETWEEN APPLICATIONS?

Rinsing between applications is not required for the PreKote chemistry to work. The application process is designed to generate as little waste water as possible.

21. CAN I USE AN IMMERSION PROCESS?

Yes, parts can be immersed in PreKote. Contact Pantheon Chemical Technical Services at 888.608.7888 for advice on immersion processes.

22. HOW MUCH PREKOTE® DO I NEED TO TREAT MY AIRCRAFT?

The volume of PreKote required to treat a given surface varies with the dispensing method. Higher volume dispensing systems (drum pumps) used for treating an entire aircraft will use one gallon of PreKote to treat 120–160 square feet. Low volume trigger spray bottles will yield 200–300 square feet per gallon of PreKote.

23. DO I HAVE TO MASK COMPOSITES OR MAGNESIUM LIKE I DO WITH ALODINE?

No, PreKote is safe for these materials, and it will also improve the paint adhesion.

24. IS THERE ANYTHING THAT MUST AVOID CONTACT WITH PREKOTE®?

No, but masking is recommended for any material not going to be primed and painted, including cockpits and windows.

25. CAN IT BE USED ON FABRICS?

No, it is not recommended that PreKote be used on fabrics.

26. CAN PREKOTE® BE USED ON INTERNAL PARTS?

Yes, PreKote can be used on any part that will subsequently be primed.

27. WHAT KIND OF PRIMER CAN I USE OVER PREKOTE®?

PreKote has proven to be compatible with any epoxy or urethane primer or topcoat from major manufacturers.

28. ARE THERE ANY OTHER PANTHEON CHEMICAL® PRODUCTS THAT I CAN USE?

Yes, Pantheon Chemical manufactures a safe, non-toxic, non-solvent cleaner, X-IT™ Carbon Remover and Cleaner, which is ideal for exterior cleaning of aircraft and meets Boeing specifications. Pantheon Chemical also manufactures a safe, non-toxic, superior performance metalworking fluid, MetLube. This unique Complex Synthetic technology offers substantial operational cost savings while assuring environmental and worker safety. For hunting and gun enthusiasts, Pantheon Chemical also makes the M-Pro 7 Gun Care Line, a safe, non-toxic, odorless, gun cleaning system that is more effective than anything else on the market.

29. IS THERE ANY VISUAL INDICATOR, SUCH AS COLOR CHANGE, THAT SIGNALS PREKOTE® HAS EFFECTIVELY TREATED A SUBSTRATE SURFACE SUCH AS ALUMINUM?

Like Alodine 1000, PreKote leaves no visual indicator.

30. DOES THE USE OF PREKOTE® INDUCE CADMIUM LEACHING FROM CADMIUM-PLATED SUBSTRATES?

No, PreKote does not leach cadmium. PreKote operates in the alkaline range (pH=10.80-11.20) and therefore has no propensity to leach cadmium from cadmium-plated parts.